



## The Equestrian Club: they live to ride

To participate in some sports and clubs, you merely have to like what you're doing, but to be a member of the Carolina Equestrian Club, you really have to love it.

"We pay approximately \$1400 a year for boots, lessons, and special outfits," said Erica Rouzer, a member of the equestrian club. "But we love it. It's just wonderful."

Equitation is a beautiful and graceful sport — the sport of horse riding — and the club at Carolina is available to satisfy the needs of all those horse lovers.

"The club gives members who would never have had a chance to ride before to have that opportunity," said President Lorri Casner. "It's a good, wholesome sport. You learn how to be around horses, how to groom them and how to lead them. You can take riding lessons or just a trail ride or you can even compete."

Carolina currently competes in Region IV of the Intercollegiate Horseshow Association and participates in six to eight horseshows a year. Their next one is today at Southern Seminary College in Buena Vista, Va.

"We compete against schools that have riding programs, and we're just a club sport," said Chris Honeycutt, also a team member.

Such strong programs include Virginia Intermont, Southern Seminary and Hollins College, Rouzer said. "Those riders are Equestrian Studies Majors, and they will eventually go into teaching riders and managing facilities."

Still, Carolina places well in the horseshows. In the show at Hollins, Va., on Nov. 1, the club finished sixth out of ten schools. "We beat Wake Forest and Duke," Casner said.

The best UNC finishers at the Hollins show included Stephanie Spiegel, who finished second in beginner walk/trot/canter, and Honeycutt, who placed third in intermediate over fences.

At the shows, riders gain points by winning ribbons. There are ten divisions ranging in complexity from beginner to advanced. The riders are judged on their equitation — how they ride and how they look.

"If a horse jumps wrong, it's your fault," Rouzer said. "You get demerits for bad jumps or bad posture."

And when a mistake is made, even though the rider is charged for it, the horse may be at fault.

"We don't take our own horses to shows," Rouzer said. "When we get to the show, we draw a horse's name out of a hat and then are expected to jump fences with that strange horse."

Casner said, "It's called catch riding."

To prepare for the events, the club practices twice a week at Camp Kanata in Durham under the instruction of Edie Ridgeway, a professional privately employed by the club.

"The school doesn't provide us with horses," Rouzer said, "but Camp Kanata has really helped us out. They helped to get us new horses."

Rouzer added that the Equestrian Club has provided her with a terrific opportunity. "It's a great way for girls like me to ride through college. I love the club — we've got a fantastic coach, and we're winning."

Casner, a senior, said she did not even know about the club until Club Sports Day last year. "I had been out of serious competition for 12 years," she said, "and I decided this was what I wanted to do. I wanted to compete and show again."

"Riding's not just a sport, it's therapy. It's stress relief. I can take a trail ride, and the problems of the world go away."

"I love it," said Honeycutt, who has been riding for 16 years. "The girls are close together — we're really tight."

Casner summed it up best: "We live to ride," she said.

## Field Hockey Club Goes 1-2-2

The UNC Field Hockey Club won a game, lost two and tied two in a pair of weekend tournaments.

UNC defeated rival N.C. State 3-0 behind goals by Valerie Green, Anne Gentling and Ellen Winstead in the Salem Smoker Field Hockey play day Oct. 28 at Salem College in Winston-Salem. The club also tied Durham 1-1 and lost to the Tobacco Road club 3-1. "Cassi Johnston played outstanding defense," said President Sarah Reardon.

UNC traveled once again to Winston-Salem the following weekend for the Deep South Field Hockey Tournament. There, they lost 3-1 to Charlotte's Carolina Club in a tough match, but bounced back to tie Davidson 2-2. Scoring goals for Carolina were Winstead in the first game and Gentling and Karen Dietrich in the second game.

"We had an outstanding performance by our goalie, Todd Gibson," Reardon said.

— Rodney Cline

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# OMNIBUS

THE DAILY TAR HEEL WEEKEND MAGAZINE

## FEATURES

### Animation Madness

Remember the good ol' days (like last weekend) of sitting in front of the TV on Saturday morning with a box of cereal, going into such sugar shock that you had to take a nap at noon? Randy Basinger and the Omnibus Star Chamber share their memories and opinions with you, and Chip Sudderth previews 'Akira' and reviews 'Chuck Amuck.'

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